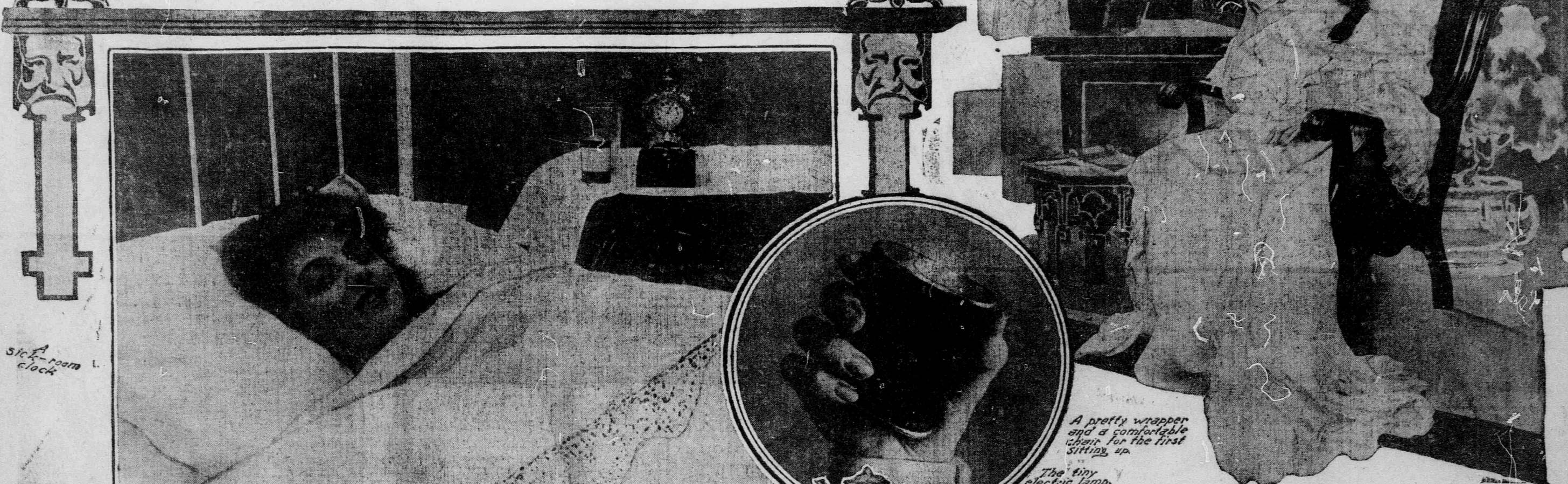


For Every Woman According to Her Needs

NEW INVENTIONS FOR INVALIDS



IT'S had enough, under the best of circumstances, to be an invalid, but there never were so many compensations before. People have learned that the removal of petty discomforts has a great deal to do with a more rapid recovery of the patient. The propping up in bed, for instance, soon becomes uncomfortable if the propping is done with pillows, which will slip in spite of all that you can do. But a bed rest is very comfortable—a shelving arrangement of boards, or of frame work and springs, that can be slipped in next the mattress, and made, by the aid of a big soft pillow, into the most comfortable thing imaginable, which supports your body without allowing it to drag.

An invention that is built somewhat on the same principle is a foot rest made of two boards, one nailed across the end of the other like a capital T, and both are covered with thick, soft carpet. The long end slips up under you, resting against the chair; half of the cross piece props up your feet to the height of the usual stool, while your feet are braced against the upper half.

Have Things Conveniently Near.

For an invalid who is troubled with wakefulness, electric lamps or candlesticks, and electric clocks as well, are the greatest comfort imaginable. Somehow, if you can see things around you the night isn't half so dreary. Touch a button, and a tiny electric bulb flashes on, bright enough to show the whole face of the clock. The other clocks are almost as good, and the combination is best of all, which, when you press a little covered knob, strikes the hour that the hands point nearest to. The little battery gets used up, of course, but it lasts a good while, and costs very little to renew.

The electric lamps come in a dozen frills, from the tiny ones that fit into the palm of your hand to longer kinds, with a "bull's-eye" lens; and electric handles have a bulb shaped like the flame of a candle.

Invalid screens solve the problem of having a lot of little things constantly at hand without letting them be decided in the way. Perhaps they're better known under the name of sewing-

screens—low screens, three-paneled, covered with denim, and with deep, full pockets gathered on to strips of strong plastic. Sewing the pick-up work every invalid likes to play with at rare intervals—fills one pocket; writing paper another; pencils and pens and a safety razor go in a little one at the top; a favorite book finds accommodation in still another, while handkerchiefs (they are always getting lost about a bed) are always to be found in the last pocket, and scissors hang from little brass hooks.

All these things are conveniently near, yet anything but in the way. And the screen is very easily made—just of strong, straight boards (not too large), hinged together and covered. For a cover denim is best—it's so much stronger than almost any other stuff; and the pockets need to be strong to hold all the things that will get crowded into them.

Nobody who hasn't been an invalid ever realizes how much you dislike to be constantly asking for this thing or that, and Lie screen saves the trouble. And, by the way, it makes a birthday gift that will be mighty acceptable.

Baby pillows, to tuck under the tired spot, do wonders in the way of resting you; and a spread of dimity or linen, or even a sheet used in place of a spread, is not only lighter in weight, but so much pleasanter to touch than the stiff, thick surface.

An improvement on slippery trays (and a tray is very heavy to hold when you're weak) is a little table with short, squat legs, the top fixed like a tray. But the true invalid table is best, with its long balancing rod that runs out under the bed, and keeping the table itself from tipping over when weights are put on it.

The top can be adjusted, raising or lowering it to a comfortable height, and tilts besides, being made to stay at any angle you please by the tightening of a screw underneath.

Individual china service comes, complete in every detail, and tiny cloths that may do duty as table cloths.

If an illness is only temporary (although a serious temporary), the old-time-up time is full of weary moments, which have inspired the bringing-together of things not only comfortable, but pretty. A pretty wrapper interests

a woman, no matter if she has been so sick that she feels her interest in clothes is forever gone; and a deep, comfortable chair is a necessity.

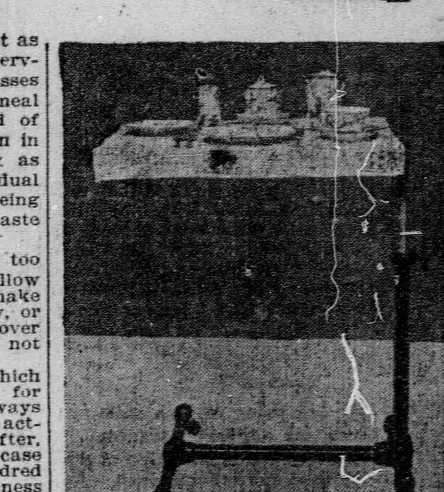
A steamer chair, packed with cushions, is the ideal invalid chair, with great, soft Morris chairs as a close second, or one of the light willow chairs that come in such comfortable shapes.

So many little things can be done to make things more comfortable, if the luxuries seem out of reach—things that have no cost but thought. It is just as easy, when the housemother is preserving or jellifying, to fill some little glasses so that only enough for a single meal need be served at a time, instead of sending up a big glass with a spoon in it, until it is finished. It's about as easy, too, to make a little individual mold when the family dessert is being made, and, somehow, it seems to taste a lot better that way.

When a pretty baby pillow costs too much, why not use an old sofa pillow with strong white muslin, and make some plain little cross-barred dimity, or even plaid muslin, slips to button over it? It costs nothing but time, and not very much of that.

The luxuries and inventions which have been made have done a lot for invalids, not only in creating new ways of making them comfortable, but in acting as models to plan things after, which, perhaps, suit an individual case much better, and suggest a hundred new ways of making thoughtfulness practical.

Don't save all your invalid helpful ideas for chronic invalids—they should be thought of first—but have your jellies and little things ready for the small illnesses which occur once in so often.



New Combs and Barrettes



WITH the new arrangement of the hair, which that exaggerated tilt so conspicuous in summer hats demands, barrettes are almost a necessity. They are certainly eminently to be desired, for straggling locks are anything but attractive.

Barrettes seemed like an affection when they were first worn, but as soon as they proved themselves to be useful, jewelers set about decorating them, and making them up in as varied ways as possible.

The most popular arrangement requires comb and barrette that match—just a single large comb set directly against the back of the knot, with the barrette rather smaller than it was a year ago.

Most of the newest are jeweled—baroque pearls being the favorite jewel,

Fireless Stoves

A German Invention Which Is an Economy of Fuel.

TRUST the Germans for discovering ways of saving money and scientific ways of doing things at the same time! The money-saving instinct goes even a little ahead of the scientific, for they've always been a thrifty race. The combination of qualities results in some splendid discoveries.

The newest and most wonderful, from a housemother's standpoint, is one that ought to be greeted enthusiastically everywhere. It is a "fireless stove," which sounds impossible.

This stove is nothing more nor less than an ordinary wooden box made of rather thick boards, with every possible crack carefully filled in, and a lid that fits down tightly. The box should be deep, and should be almost filled with clean hay, with a pillowcase filled with hay to pack in under the lid. If hay is hard to get use shavings, or even paper, the paper cut up into long strips a couple of inches wide—something like a coarse excelsior. Even newspaper will do.

Renew the "Filling" Regularly.

Whatever you do use, renew it entirely every week or so, whether or not you use it a great deal. If you don't, there'll be some unpleasant consequences.

In Germany, where the idea came from and where it is being advanced rapidly, elaborately got up boxes are to be had, partitioned and divided something on the order of a refrigerator. They are meeting with a fairly good sale, but the handy man can make as satisfactory a one in a very short time, which, having its filling and partitions and all of the same, to be renewed every little while, is really more hygienic.

Fire cannot be dispensed with by the aid of these boxes, but the amount of fuel used can be minimized. In these German experts have tested and tried in every conceivable way, and proved a rather startling fact, that food goes on cooking in the box. Of course, with the air kept away from it absolutely there's no escaping of the heat, which goes on doing its work of cooking as long as it is confined.

It is exactly on the same principle as a man's buttoning a newspaper under his coat—it keeps the heat in splendidly.

The Exceptions to the Rule.

Nobody can tell you how long the food needs to be cooked on a fire stove before it is put into the box to finish—some things need only to be brought to a boil, other things that would require perhaps several hours to cook on a stove will require several more in the box, but need to be over the fire only five or ten minutes.

While the process is necessarily slower, the cooking is done with the perfect evenness that all good cooks strive after.

Of course, there are certain exceptions—everything can't be finished in it. Broiling would be an impossibility, and the sorts of cookery that "fall" if the oven door be even opened naturally

SELECTING GIFTS FOR THE GIRL GRADUATE



WHY on earth, with shops teeming with pretty things, it should be hard to think of something to give the girl who's going to graduate, nobody knows, but it always is.

Graduation presents run to opposite extremes—they're either utterly impersonal, like flowers and books, or the most personal things in the world. Only close friends send personal gifts—everybody else must content himself with flowers, and with the fact that she never can get enough of them.

Every sort of flower is given—roses, of course, most of all—and pink or red ones at that. Don't send all-white flowers, whatever you do. You're not assisting at either a funeral or a wedding, and white flowers belong, by rights, to such solemn ceremonies. Send only the sort of flowers that will be in keeping with the bright, joyous feeling that each girl is secretly conscious of; she knows all the time is to know and the weary process of education is behind her. Never mind if she's just being graduated from life's kindergarten—that isn't your affair. Join in the joyous side of it.

Loose Flowers Prettiest.

Just loose bunches of flowers are, perhaps, prettiest; but the quaint baskets and boxes and the basket-boxes that the florists' shops show are stunning filled with flowers—the neutral tint of the straw setting off the colors in a wonderful way.

If you want to send something less perishable than flowers, yet still keep to the impersonal, send books, attractive small editions of classics, the best novel, or, perhaps, a volume of poems that are based on her especial hobby.

If you're one of the close friends, privileged to send personal gifts, there's hardly anything you can't send. Pretty things with a useful side are, perhaps, the most satisfactory of all to give—a handkerchief with a real lace border, a flower, or a feather, fan, or a pair of silk stockings of the color she likes best.

Real lace collars—turnover collars or stocks—are surprisingly inexpensive, and, perhaps, she's been longing to own a bit (no matter how small) of real lace. Every little while new ways of stamping stationery are invented; a good supply with her initials attractively applied would make as interesting a gift to look up and choose as to receive.

Among the new silver trinkets for her bureau are hairpin cases—cushions, really—mounted in silver. New belt buckles—some a purse—a thousand new ones, of silver or gold or the interestingly unusual ones that seem dependent more upon design than upon metal.

For the Athletic Girl.

Perhaps she's athletic—a new tennis racket, then; or perhaps you know the new golf club she wants. Odd little traveling cases come, fitted out with tiny bottles, or with all the little things that are necessary to have on the shortest of trips. Or a new traveling bag—the new shapes are so interesting—will bring many a thought of you in its use. Or purses, or wristbags—the field that leather things cover is enormous.

A pongee coat—one of the long, loose kind that slips over summer dresses and is a bit of beauty in itself—is one of the best gifts of all, and one that will wear from commencement day itself on until the first frosts come.

Vases or bits of statuary, or perhaps a clock—they're all impersonal gifts that can be made very personal indeed, by the way they are chosen.